

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
JOINT MEETING OF THE
MANSFIELD PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
AND

MANSFIELD INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

Special Meeting

Monday, November 21, 2011 ▪ 7:00 PM

Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building ▪ 4 South Eagleville Road ▪ Council Chambers

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Organizational Meeting
 - a. Introduction of New Member
 - Binu Chandy, Alternate
 - b. Election of Officers
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Secretary
 - c. Committee Appointments
 - Town University Relations Committee
 - Transportation Advisory Committee
 - Regional Planning Agency
 - Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee
 - d. Review of By-Laws
 - Planning and Zoning Commission
 - Inland Wetlands Agency
4. Adjournment

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BY-LAWS

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MANSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

Effective December, 2009

ARTICLE I, Purpose and Authorization

The objectives and purposes of the Planning and Zoning Commission of Mansfield, Connecticut are those set forth in Chapters 124 and 126 of the Connecticut General Statutes, 1958 Revisions as amended, and those powers and duties delegated to the Planning and Zoning Commission by State Statutes and Ordinances of the Town of Mansfield. A Town referendum establishing the Planning and Zoning Commission was held on March 26, 1958.

ARTICLE II, Name

The Commission shall be known as the Planning and Zoning Commission of Mansfield, Connecticut.

ARTICLE III, Office of Commission

The office of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, where all Commission records shall be kept. Copies of all official documents, record maps, etc., shall be filed or recorded in the office of the Town Clerk when required by State Statute.

ARTICLE IV, Membership

Section 1. The membership and terms of office shall be as specified in the Charter of the Town of Mansfield, Chapter 2, Section 202, Town Ordinances and the aforementioned General Statutes. Members/alternates shall notify the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Planning Office if they expect to be absent from a regular bi-monthly meeting or special meeting, with the following exceptions: field trips and committee meetings are excluded from this requirement. If appropriate notice has been given of absences, the Commission may waive attendance requirements of Town Ordinance 13-1, which states that absence from three (3) consecutive meetings can be considered resignation from the Commission.

Section 2. Except for disqualifications (see Article VIII), any regular Commission member who is present at a meeting shall be seated as a voting member.

Section 3. Alternates - as provided for by Town Ordinance and the Town Charter, the Planning and Zoning Commission shall have three alternate members. Such alternate members shall, when seated as herein provided, have all powers and duties of regular members as set forth in the General Statutes, Mansfield Charter and Town Ordinances. When not seated, alternate members may discuss items of business. However, after a motion is made, or after the close of a Public Hearing, discussion on the motion or on the subject application shall be limited to voting members. Alternate members are encouraged to attend all meetings and executive sessions of the Commission, and they shall have the right to be members of Commission sub-committees.

If a regular member of the Commission is absent or disqualified (see Article VIII), the Chairman of the Commission shall designate an alternate to act, choosing alternates in alphabetical rotation so that they act as nearly equal a number of times as possible. In the case of the absence of a regular member, the seated alternate shall act for the entire meeting. If any alternate is not available in accordance with such rotation, or is disqualified from acting on a specific item of business, such fact shall be recorded in the Minutes of the meeting and the next alternate in rotation shall be seated.

ARTICLE V, Officers and their Duties

Section 1. The officers of the Commission shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary.

Section 2. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and Hearings of the Commission and shall have the duties normally conferred by parliamentary usage on such officers. The Chairman shall have the authority to appoint committees, certify expenditures of funds up to \$250.00 without prior approval of the Commission, call special meetings, and generally perform such other duties as may be proscribed in these By-laws.

Section 3. The Chairman shall be one of the Commission members. He/she shall have the privilege of discussing all matters before the Commission and of voting thereon.

Section 4. The Vice-Chairman shall act for the Chairman in his/her absence and shall have the authority to perform the duties proscribed for that office. He/she shall be a Commission member.

Section 4a. In the case of a prolonged absence of the Chairman, the Commission may elect an Acting Chairman who may be other than the Vice-Chairman. Said Acting Chairman shall be a Commission member and have the authority to perform all the duties prescribed for the office of the Chairman. The duties of the Vice-Chairman shall remain as prescribed.

Section 5. The Secretary shall keep the Minutes and records of the Commission, act for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in their absence, and, with the assistance of such staff as is available, provide notice of all meetings to Commission members, arrange proper and legal notice of Hearings, attend to correspondence of the Commission, and perform such other duties as are normally carried out by a secretary. He/she shall be a Commission member.

Section 6. In the absence of the Secretary due to illness, personal or disqualification reasons, the Chairman shall appoint a Secretary pro-tem.

ARTICLE VI, Election of Officers

Section 1. A biennial organizational meeting shall be held after Town Election, in accordance with the Town Charter, at which time officers shall be elected and By-laws reviewed and made part of the Minutes. Seven members must be present before election of officers can take place; a majority vote of the total membership (5) is required to elect any officer.

Section 2. Nominations shall be made from the floor at the organizational meeting and election of the officers specified in Section 1 of Article V shall follow immediately thereafter.

Section 3. A candidate receiving a majority vote from the entire membership of the Commission shall be declared elected and shall serve for two years, or until his successor shall take office.

Section 4. Vacancies in office shall be filled by regular election procedure as prescribed above.

Section 5. Resignations from the Commission shall be in written form and transmitted to the Town Clerk and the Chairman. Vacancies shall be filled as prescribed in the Charter of the Town of Mansfield, Chapter 2, Section 206, the Town Ordinances, and the State Statutes.

ARTICLE VII, Meetings

Section 1. Regular meetings generally will be held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. or upon completion of any Inland Wetland Agency meeting after 7:00 p.m., at an appropriate place designated by the Commission. In the event of conflict with holidays or other events, a majority at any meeting may

change the date of said meeting. The Secretary shall notify the membership of special meetings not less than 24 hours in advance of such meeting.

Section 2. A majority (5) of the total membership of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote (5) of the total membership of the Commission is required to adopt any changes to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations, or to the Zoning District Boundaries, or to take action on contracts or expenditures. To take action on any other matter, a majority of the members present and voting shall be required.

Section 3. All Commission meetings shall be open to the public unless a majority of the Commission members present and voting decide to enter an executive session, as provided for in Chapter 3 of the State Statutes.

Section 4. Unless otherwise specified, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings at the meetings of the Commission.

ARTICLE VIII, Disqualification

Section 1. No member of the Commission shall appear for or represent any person, firm or corporation or other entity in any matter pending before the Commission. No member of the Commission shall participate in the hearing or decision of the Commission upon any matter in which he/she is directly or indirectly interested in a personal or financial sense. No member of the Commission, including alternates, shall participate in a decision of the Commission upon any matter in which he/she is not familiar with the record of information pertinent to the subject matter. In the event of such disqualification, such fact shall be entered on the records of the Commission and the disqualified member shall leave the table and shall not participate further. When disqualification is questionable, the Chairman shall make the final decision. Whenever the issue of disqualification occurs, the subject Commission member shall immediately notify the Chairman that he is considering disqualification.

Section 2. All members shall conduct themselves in accordance with the "Code of Ethics" Ordinance as adopted by the Mansfield Town Council effective August 7, 1995.

ARTICLE IX, Order of Business

Section 1. Unless otherwise determined by the Chairman or unless scheduled in advance, the order of business at regular meetings shall be:

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting and Action Thereon
- d. Public Hearings
- e. Old Business
- f. New Business
- g. Reports of Officers and Committees
- h. Communications and Bills
- i. Adjournment

ARTICLE X, Public Hearings

Section 1. The Commission may hold Public Hearings, in addition to required hearings, when it decides that Hearings will be in the public interest.

Section 2. All Public Hearings prescribed by law shall be held in accordance with the requirements set forth for such Hearings in Chapters 124 and 126 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 3. The matter before the Commission shall be presented in summary by a member of the Commission designated by the Chairman, or a staff member, and parties of interest shall have the privilege of the floor.

Section 4. A competent stenographer shall take the evidence, or the evidence shall be recorded by a sound-recording device, at each Hearing before the Commission in which the right to appeal lies to the Superior Court. A summary of the proceedings of the Hearing shall be incorporated into the Minutes Book of the Commission to be a permanent part of that record, and the tape shall be filed in the office of the Commission.

Section 5. To better expedite the proceedings of the Hearing and to cause a better understanding of the issue involved, the Commission shall prepare an agenda prior to the Hearing and may prepare visual aids for display and presentation during the discussions of the Hearing.

ARTICLE XI, Conducting the Public Hearing

Section 1. The Chairman of the Commission shall preside at the Public Hearing. In the event of his/her absence, the Vice-Chairman or a duly appointed Commission member shall act as presiding officer.

Section 2. The Secretary or a person designated by the Chairman shall read the legal advertisement and note the dates and newspapers in which the advertisement appeared, as well as any communications received.

Section 3. A summary of the question or issue shall be stated by the presiding officer at the opening of the Public Hearing. Comments shall be limited to the subject advertised for hearing. The chairman shall emphasize that the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive relevant information from any applicant and from the public, and that Commission members shall await the close of the Hearing before discussing the relative merits of the subject issue. In any event, the Commission shall have the privilege of speaking first. The Chairman shall describe the method of conduct of the Hearing.

Section 4. The Chairman shall first call for statements from the proponents. The opponents shall be given equal opportunity to comment. The order is reversible, the discretion of the Commission prevailing. Whichever the case may be, each group shall make its presentation in succession without allowing an intermixture of comments, pro or con. The chairman shall take necessary actions to avoid repetition and debate and shall have the right to limit the length of time available for individual speakers. Reports, letters and other written materials previously submitted or submitted at the Hearing may be summarized, but should not be read aloud, as all written information is copied and distributed to members. In cases where extensive public participation may be anticipated, a sign-up sheet may be provided to determine the order for speaking.

Section 4. The Chairman shall first call for statements from the proponents. The opponents shall be given equal opportunity to comment. The order is reversible, the discretion of the Commission prevailing. Whichever the case may be, each group shall make its presentation in succession without allowing an intermixture of comments, pro or con. In cases where extensive public participation may be anticipated, a sign-up sheet may be provided to determine the order for speaking.

Section 5. It shall be made clear at the Hearing that all questions and comments must be directed through the Chair only after being properly recognized by the presiding officer.

Section 6. All persons recognized shall approach the Hearing table in order to facilitate proper recording of comments. Before commenting on the matter before the Hearing, each person shall give his/her name and address.

Section 7. The presiding officer shall assure an orderly Hearing and shall take necessary steps to maintain the order and decorum of the Hearing at all times. The presiding officer shall reserve the right to terminate the Hearing in the event the discussion becomes unruly and unmanageable.

Section 8. The show of hands by those persons present shall not be allowed on any general question presented at the Public Hearing. The Hearing shall be conducted only for the purpose of taking testimony to be considered in deliberations of a regular or special meeting of the Commission.

ARTICLE XII, Employees

Section 1. Within the limits of the funds available for its use, the Commission may employ such staff personnel and/or consultants as it sees fit, to aid the Commission in its work. Appointments shall be made by a majority vote of the total membership of the Commission. The Chairman may be authorized to employ personnel and retain consultants upon approval of the majority of the Commission. Where there is a Director of Planning, the Chairman shall work with him/her in the employment of consultants/personnel. The Chairman may be authorized to sign contracts for employing personnel and contracting for planning services as might be approved by the Commission.

ARTICLE XIII, Committees

Section 1. Special committees may be appointed by the Chairman for purposes and terms which the Commission approves.

ARTICLE XIV, Public Relations

Section 1. The Chairman or a duly-appointed Commission member or staff personnel shall act as public relations or publicity director for the Commission. The duties include the preparation of all news releases to be distributed to the communications media. All information releases shall reflect the thinking of the majority of the Commission, with respect for the minority opinion where appropriate.

Section 2. In the matter of the press, radio or television representatives, the Commission shall comply with Chapter 3, Sections 1-10, 1-21 of the Connecticut General Statutes, 1958 revision, as amended.

ARTICLE XV, Amendments

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the entire voting membership of the Commission only after the proposed change has been read and discussed at a previous regular meeting, except that the By-laws may be changed at any meeting by the affirmative vote of seven members of the Commission.

Enacted: May, 1967

Amended: November, 1969; November, 1971; November, 1973; November, 1975; November, 1977; November, 1979; November, 1981; April, 1982; November, 1983; December, 1985; December, 1987; December 1989; November, 1990; February, 1994; December, 1995; November, 2001; January, 2004; December 2009

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BY-LAWS
MANSFIELD INLAND WETLAND AGENCY

Effective January 1, 2002

ARTICLE I
Objectives

The objectives and purposes of the Inland Wetland Agency of Mansfield, Connecticut are those set forth in Public Act No. 155 of 1972 and amendments thereto, and those powers and duties delegated to the Inland Wetland Agency by State Statutes and Ordinances of the Town of Mansfield. The Town of Mansfield's Planning and Zoning Commission was designated the Inland Wetland Agency in an Ordinance adopted by the Town of Mansfield on January 14, 1974.

ARTICLE II
Name

The Agency shall be known as the Town of Mansfield Inland Wetland Agency.

ARTICLE III
Office of Agency

The office of the Inland Wetland Agency shall be in the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, where all Agency records will be kept. Copies of all official documents, record maps, etc., shall be filed or recorded in the office of the Town Clerk when required by State Statute.

ARTICLE IV
Membership

Section 1. The membership and terms of office for the Inland Wetland Agency shall be the same as the membership and terms of office of the Town of Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission.

Section 2. Alternates - As provided for by Town Ordinance, the Inland Wetland Agency shall have three alternate members. Such alternate members shall, when seated as herein provided, have all powers and duties of regular members as set forth in the General Statutes, Mansfield Charter and Town Ordinances. When not seated, alternate members may discuss items of business. However, after a motion is made, or after the close of a Public Hearing, discussion on the motion or on the subject application shall be limited to voting members. Alternate

members are encouraged to attend all meetings and executive sessions of the Agency, and they shall have the right to be members of Agency subcommittees.

If a regular member of the Agency is absent or disqualified (see Article VIII), the Chairman of the Agency shall designate an alternate to act, choosing alternates in alphabetical rotation so that they act as nearly equal a number of times as possible. In the case of the absence of a regular member, the assigned alternate shall act for the entire meeting. If any alternate is not available in accordance with such rotation, or is disqualified from acting on a specific item of business, such fact shall be recorded in the Minutes of the meeting and the next alternate in rotation will be seated.

ARTICLE V Officers and their Duties

Section 1 - The officers of the Agency shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary.

Section 2 - The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and hearings of the Agency and shall have the duties normally conferred by parliamentary usage on such officers. The Chairman shall have the authority to appoint committees, certify expenditures of funds up to \$50.00 without prior approval of the Agency, call special meetings, and generally perform other duties as may be prescribed in these By-laws.

Section 3 - The Chairman shall be one of the Agency members. He/She shall have the privilege of discussing all matters before the Agency and of voting thereon.

Section 4 - The Vice-Chairman shall act for the Chairman in his/her absence and have the authority to perform the duties prescribed for that office. He/She shall be an Agency member.

Section 5 - The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the Agency and, with the assistance of such staff as is available, provide notice of all meetings to Agency members, arrange proper and legal notice of Hearings, attend to correspondence of the Agency and such other duties as are normally carried out by a Secretary. He/She shall be an Agency member.

Section 6 - In the absence of the Secretary due to illness, personal, or disqualification reasons, the Chairman shall appoint a Secretary Pro-tem.

ARTICLE VI Election of Officers

Section 1 - The officers of the Agency may be the same individuals as the officers of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission.

Section 2. - A biennial organizational meeting shall be held at the first meeting after the organizational meeting of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission, at which time officers shall be elected.

Section 3. - Vacancies in the offices shall be filled by the procedure followed by the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission.

Section 4. - Resignations from the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission shall automatically constitute resignation from the Agency. No member shall resign from the Agency and remain a member of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission. Vacancies shall be filled in a manner prescribed for the filling of vacancies of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission.

ARTICLE VII Meetings

Section 1. - Regular meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at an appropriate place designated by the Agency. In the event of conflict with holidays or other events, a majority at any meeting may change the date or time of said meeting. The Secretary shall notify the membership of special meetings not less than 24 hours in advance of such meeting.

Section 2. - A majority (5) of the voting membership of the Agency shall constitute a quorum. Unless otherwise specified in the Regulations, the number of votes necessary to transact business shall be a majority of votes of the members present and voting, except when a Public Hearing is involved. In this case, the number of votes necessary to transact business shall be a majority of the total membership of the Agency.

Section 3. - All Agency meetings shall be open to the public unless a majority of the Agency members present and voting decide to enter an executive session as provided for in Chapter 3 of the State Statutes.

Section 4. - Unless otherwise specified, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings at the meetings of this Agency.

ARTICLE VIII Disqualification

No members of the Agency shall appear for or represent any person, firm or corporation or other entity in any matter pending before the Agency. No member of the Agency shall participate in the Hearing or decision of the Agency upon any matter in which he/she is directly or indirectly interested in a personal or financial sense. No member of the Agency, including alternates, shall participate in a decision of the Agency upon any matter with which he/she is not familiar with the record of information pertinent to the subject matter. In the event of such disqualification, such fact shall be entered on the records of the Agency and the

disqualified member shall leave the table and shall not participate further. When disqualification is questionable, the Chairman shall make the final decision. Whenever the issue of disqualification occurs, the subject Agency member shall immediately notify the Chairman that he/she is considering disqualification.

ARTICLE IX Order of Business

Section 1. - Unless otherwise determined by the Chairman or unless scheduled in advance, the order of business at regular meetings shall be:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review of Minutes of previous meetings and action thereon
4. Communications: a) Conservation Commission; b) Agent's Monthly Report
5. Enforcement
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Reports of Officers and Committees
9. (Other) Communications and Bills
10. Adjournment

Section 2. - A motion from the floor must be made and passed in order to dispense with any item or to change the order of business.

Article X Hearings

Section 1. - The Agency may hold Public Hearings, in addition to required hearings, when it decides that such Hearings will be in the public interest.

Section 2. - All Public Hearings prescribed by law shall be held in accordance with the requirements set forth for such Hearings in the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 3. - The matter before the Agency shall be presented in summary by a member of the Agency designated by the Chairman, or staff member, and parties in interest shall have the privilege of the floor.

Section 4. - A competent stenographer shall take the evidence or the evidence shall be recorded by a sound-recording device at each Hearing before the Agency in which the right to appeal lies to the Superior Court. A summary of the proceedings of the Hearing shall be incorporated into the Minutes Book of the Agency to be a permanent part of that record, and the tape shall be filed in the office of the Agency. The summary shall include the tape number and date.

Section 5. - To expedite more efficiently the proceedings of the Hearing and to cause a better understanding of the issue involved, the Agency may prepare, prior to the Hearing, any visual aids for display and presentation during the discussions of the Hearings.

ARTICLE XI Conducting the Public Hearing

Section 1. - The Chairman of the Agency shall preside at the Public Hearing. In the event of his/her absence, the Vice-Chairman or a duly appointed Agency member shall act as presiding officer.

Section 2. - The Secretary or person designated by the Chair shall read the legal advertisement and note the dates and newspapers in which the advertisement appeared, as well as any other communications received.

Section 3. - A summary of the question or issue shall be stated by the presiding officer at the opening of the Public Hearing. Comments shall be limited to the subject advertised for hearing. In any event, the Agency shall have the privilege of speaking first. The Chairman shall describe the method of conduct of the Hearing.

Section 4. - The Chairman shall first call for statements from the proponents. The opponents shall be given equal opportunity to comment. The order is reversible, the discretion of the Agency prevailing. Whichever is the case, each group shall make its presentation in succession without allowing an intermixture of comments pro or con.

Section 5. - It shall be made clear to the Hearing that all questions and comments must be directed through the Chair only after being properly recognized by the presiding officer.

Section 6. - All persons recognized shall approach the Hearing table in order to facilitate proper recording of comments. Before commenting on the matter before the Hearing, each person shall give his/her name and address.

Section 7. - The presiding officer shall assure an orderly Hearing and shall take necessary steps to maintain the order and decorum of the Hearing at all times. The presiding officer shall reserve the right to terminate the Hearing in the event the discussion becomes unruly and unmanageable.

Section 8. - The show of hands by those persons present shall not be allowed on any general question presented at the Public Hearing. The Hearing shall be conducted only for the purpose of taking testimony to be considered in the deliberations of a regular or special meeting of the Agency.

ARTICLE XII Employees

Section 1. - Within the limits of the funds available for its use, the Agency may employ such staff personnel and/or consultants as it sees fit to aid the Agency in its work. Where there is

an Inland Wetland Agent, the Chairman shall work with him/her in the employment of consultants/personnel. The Chairman may be authorized to sign contracts for employing personnel and contracting for services as might be approved by a majority of the Agency.

ARTICLE XIII Committees

Section 1. - Special committees may be appointed by the Chairman for purposes and terms which the Agency approves.

ARTICLE XIV Public Relations

Section 1. - The Chairman or a duly appointed Agency member or staff personnel shall act as public relations or publicity director for the Agency. His or her duties include the preparation of all news releases to be distributed to the communications media. All information releases shall reflect the thinking of the majority of the Agency, with respect for the minority opinion as appropriate.

Section 2. - In the matter of the press, radio and television representatives, the Agency shall comply with Chapter 3, Sections 1-19, 1-20, and 1-21 of the Connecticut General Statutes, 1958 revision, as amended.

ARTICLE XV Amendments

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the entire voting membership of the Agency only after the proposed change has been read and discussed at a previous regular meeting, except that the By-laws may be changed at any meeting by the affirmative vote of seven members of the Agency.

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